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DATE MAILED: 07/18/2006

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/814,577	03/31/2004	Andrew D. Wilson	MICR0482	6896
27792 75	590 07/18/2006		EXAM	INER
	ANDERSON	·	HAUPT, KRISTY A	
MICROSOFT CORPORATION 600 108TH AVENUE N.E., SUITE 507 BELLEVUE, WA 98004		7	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
		1	2876	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	10/814,577	WILSON, ANDREW D.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Kristy A. Haupt	2876				
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	pears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPL' WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.1 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period value is a period of the provision	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timwill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from a cause the application to become ABANDONE	N. sely filed the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Appli	ication dated 31 March 2004.					
· · · ·	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is					
closed in accordance with the practice under E	ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	3 O.G. 213.				
Disposition of Claims						
4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw 5) ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) ☐ Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) ☐ Claim(s) 1-32 are subject to restriction and/or expressions.	wn from consideration.	,				
Application Papers						
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acc Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct	epted or b) objected to by the I drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See tion is required if the drawing(s) is objected.	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). jected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).				
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	Rammer. Note the attached Office	Action of form PTO-132.				
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority document 2. Certified copies of the priority document 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority document application from the International Bureau * See the attached detailed Office action for a list	es have been received. Es have been received in Applicati rity documents have been receive u (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	on No ed in this National Stage				
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) 🔲 Interview Summary	(PTO-413)				
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	Paper No(s)/Mail Da					

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Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species:

- Species 1: A radial code is used for encoding the value (as shown in currently filed claims 3, 13 and 26)
- Species 2: A variable length linear code is used for encoding the value (as shown in currently filed claims 4, 15 and 28)
- Species 3: A variable bit-length code is used for encoding the value (as shown in currently filed claims 5, 16 and 29)
- Species 4: A multi-level, variable bit-length code is used for encoding the
 value (as shown in currently filed claims 6-8, 17-20 and 30-32)

The species are independent or distinct because Species 1, which includes a radial code having a radial area, is mutually exclusive of the requirements for all other species. Further, Species 2, which includes a variable length linear code having detectable area and predefined parallel strips of equal length and also having code portion disposed between the parallel strips is mutually exclusive of the requirements for all other species. Species 3, which includes a variable bit length code having a cue component with a predefined dimension always being smaller than the variable length dimension and further having a code portion with a first binary element at a predefined offset from the cue component is mutually exclusive of the requirements for all other species. Species 4 which includes a multi level variable bit length code having a cue component detectable at a binarization threshold and a cue component with a variable

length dimension that indicates a reference orientation and indicates an extent of the code portion and a code portion that is detectable at a gray scale threshold is mutually exclusive of the requirements for all other species.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, Claims 1-2, 9-12, 14, 21-25 and 27 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species.

MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Kristy A. Haupt whose telephone number is (571) 272-

8545. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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